

FROM:

DATE: 19 MAR 1963

STAT

	TO	INITIALS	DATE	FOR YOUR					SEE ME	FILE	RETURN	SEE REMARKS BELOW	STAT	
				SIGNATURE	INFORMATION	COMMENTS	APPROVAL	ACTION						
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**RAC No. 033/63**

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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Office of Current Intelligence  
19 March 1963**

**DAILY REPORT**

**SUBJECT: US Reconnaissance Activity over Cuba**

**1. Today's Schedule (19 March 1963)**

- a. Missions: BRASS KNOB 3500 off at 0530 EST.  
Estimated time of return 1402 EST.  
BRASS KNOB 3501 scheduled off at 0900 EST.  
Estimated time of return 1703 EST.
- b. Purpose : Mission 3500 will cover the north and south coasts. Mission 3501 will cover the north coast.
- c. Weather : Good over entire island except fair over eastern tip. Good to fair over entire island tomorrow.
- d. IPIR due: 21 March 1963.

**2. Yesterday's Activity (18 March 1963)**

- a. Missions: BRASS KNOB 3498 covered the south coast and the Isle of Pines. BRASS KNOB 3499 covered the north coast. Pilots estimate percentage coverage of scheduled targets to be 90% and 75% respectively.
- b. Weather : Good over entire island.
- c. IPIR due: 20 March 1963.
- d. Reaction: No significant air defense reaction to these BRASS KNOB missions was detected.

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**3. Shipping Summary**

**a. Soviet Bloc ships confirmed en route to Cuba  
1600 EST 18 March:**

Tankers	9
Passenger	2
Dry Cargo	10
Total	<u>21</u>

**b. Soviet Bloc ships in Cuban ports 1600 EST  
18 March:**

Tankers	4
Passenger	0
Dry Cargo	21
Total	<u>25</u>

**c. Dry cargo ships now in Cuban ports which were  
photographed while inbound to Cuba by low-altitude or  
surface cameras: 20**

**d. CIA has received photos of 18 of these ships.**

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**TOP SECRET DINAR****ANNEX TO DAILY REPORT****19 March 1963**

The following is the status of "Special Interest" ships in the Cuban trade:

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>En route to Cuba:</u>		
Baltika	Passenger	ETA Havana 20 March 2200 EST.
Bajkal	Passenger	ETA Havana 29-30 March. (Estimate)
<u>In Cuban ports:</u>		
Orenburg	Cargo (Omsk class)	16 March probably in Santiago. ETA Vladi- vostok end April.
Krasnograd	Cargo	17 March in Matanzas.
Karachaevo- Cherkassiya	Cargo (Krasnograd class)	17 March in Nuevitas.

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**TOP SECRET DINAR****BRASS KNOB COVERAGE OF COMOR HIGHEST PRIORITY TARGETS IN CUBA**

During 11 - 17 March 1963

Targets	Dates							Totals	
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Sorties	Days Covered
1. Sigüanea Cruise Missile Site								0	0
2. Banes Cruise Missile Site				1				1	1
3. Santa Cruz del Norte Cruise Site	1		1	1	1	1		5	5
4. Camilo Cienfuegos Airfield	1	1		1	1			4	4
5. Camaguey Airfield						1		1	1
6. Holguin Airfield	1	1	1	1				4	4
7. San Antonio de los Baños Airfield	2	1	1		2	1	2	9	6
8. Mariel Naval Base	2	2			2	2	1	9	5
9. Banes Naval Base				1	1		1	3	3
10. Cienfuegos Naval Base	1	1	1		1			4	4
11. Santiago de Cuba Port				1				1	1
12. La Isabella Port	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	7
13. Caibarien Port	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	11	7
14. Cardenas Port	1				1	1		3	3
15. Casilda Port		1	1		1	1		4	4
16. Matanzas Port	1		1	1	1	1		5	5
17. Havana Port	2	2	1	1	2	1		9	6
18. Guantanamo Area				1		1		2	2
19. Pinar del Rio Military Camp								0	0
20. Artemisa Military Camp		1	1		2		2	6	4
21. Holguin Military Camp	1	1						2	2
22. Remedios Military Camp	1		1	2			1	5	4
23. Santiago de los Vegas Military Camp	1	1			2			4	3
24. Lourdes (Torrens) Army Camp	1	1			2		1	5	4
25. Limonar Military Camp	1			1	1			3	3
26. Camaguey Military Camp			1			1		2	2
28. Managua Staging Area	2	1		1	2	2		8	5
29. Bejucal Staging Area	2	1		1	2	1	1	8	6
30. Manicaragua Staging Area		1						1	1

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During 11-17 March 1963, 92 percent of the total land area of Cuba was covered by photography with 25 percent or less cloud cover. This included oblique photography up to 70 miles on either side of the flight line.

During 11 - 17 March 1963, 16 BRASS KNOB missions were flown.

**GROUP 1**  
Excluded from automatic down-  
grading and declassification

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